



THE AUSTRALIAN

THE HEART OF THE NATION

Music

British Rock legend Eric Clapton finished his massive Oceania tour on February, 11 2007 in Perth!

February 12, 2007 – Perth

Thomas Clarkson

Legendary rock musician Eric Clapton finished his tour through Australia and New Zealand yesterday with a concert at Perth's massive Members Equity Stadium. Clapton is promoting his new studio albums **Back Home**, and **The Road to Escondido** which the British singer recorded with long-time friend and guitar virtuoso J.J. Cale back in 2006. Clapton and his band along with special guitarists Doyle Bramhall II and Derek Trucks played new songs off the new albums and performed Blues classics as well as Clapton standards like **Layla** and **Wonderful Tonight**. The promotion worked for Clapton, who's 2005 release has already been certified gold by the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry (IFPI) in New Zealand, selling more than 7,500 copies. In Australia, the albums also dramatically went up the sales chart. Clapton has returned with a total of nine shows here in Australia and performed one concert at New Zealand's Hawke's Bay. Oceanian fans have waited 17 years for Clapton to come back and play shows in the countries. Last time the British rock and pop composer came to Australia and New Zealand was in 1990, when he promoted his multi-Platinum selling 1989 studio album **Journeyman** in 1989, 1990 and 1991. Those concerts were all sold out, so it is only natural that after 17 years, people would quickly get tickets to the Clapton shows in 2007. And they did so; four shows in Australia were sold out in four minutes, according to MCP Australia and nearly every show was a sell-out gig. Take a look at the exclusive box-score figures in Oceania.



Source: Getty Images, 2007.

British rock legend Eric Clapton (61) while performing in front of more than 20,000 people at the Perth Members Equity Stadium on February 11.

Box-Score Data

Provided by Nielsen Business Media, Inc.

Mission Estate Winery (Jan. 27)
42,554 / 42,554
\$5,320,004

Sydney Entertainment Centre (Ja. 29-Feb.1)
33,666 / 33,666
\$4,035,583

Rod Laver Arena Melbourne (Feb. 3-4)
22,450 / 22,450
\$1,992,334

Brisbane Entertainment Centre (Feb. 6-7)
18,856 / 20,394
\$2,526,792

Adelaide Entertainment Centre (Feb. 9)
10,002 / 10,002
\$1,366,983

Members Equity Stadium Perth (Feb. 11)
20,432 / 20,432
\$1,822,554